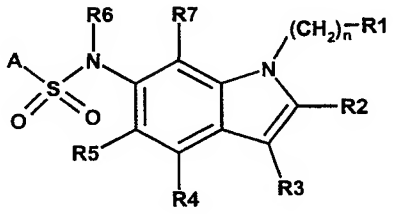
IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A sulfonamide compound of general formula (Ia),



(Ia)

wherein

R^1 represents a $-NR^8R^9$ radical or a saturated or unsaturated, optionally at least mono-substituted, optionally at least one heteroatom as a ring member containing cycloaliphatic radical, which may be condensed with a saturated or unsaturated, optionally at least mono-substituted, optionally at least one heteroatom as a ring member containing mono- or bicyclic cycloaliphatic ring system,

R^2, R^3, R^4, R^5 and R^7, identical or different, each represent hydrogen, halogen, nitro, alkoxy, cyano, a saturated or unsaturated, linear or branched, optionally at least mono-substituted aliphatic radical, or an optionally at least mono-substituted phenyl radical or an optionally at least mono-substituted heteroaryl radical,

R^6 represents hydrogen or a saturated or unsaturated, linear or branched, optionally at least mono-substituted aliphatic radical,

R^8 and R^9, identical or different, each represent hydrogen or a saturated or unsaturated, linear or branched, optionally at least mono-substituted aliphatic radical,

with the proviso that R^8 and R^9 are not hydrogen at the same time, and if one of them, R^8 or R^9, is a saturated or unsaturated, linear or branched, optionally at least mono-substituted

C_1-C_4 aliphatic radical, the other one is a saturated or unsaturated, linear or branched, optionally at least mono-substituted aliphatic radical with at least five carbon atoms,

or

R^8 and R^9, together with the bridging nitrogen atom, form a saturated or unsaturated, optionally at least mono-substituted heterocyclic ring, which may contain at least one further heteroatom as a ring member and/or which may be condensed with a saturated or unsaturated, optionally at least mono-substituted, optionally at least one heteroatom as a ring member containing mono- or bicyclic cycloaliphatic ring system,

A represents an optionally at least mono-substituted mono- or polycyclic aromatic ring system, which may be bonded via an optionally at least mono-substituted alkylene, alkenylene or alkynylene group and/or which may contain at least one heteroatom as a ring member in one or more of its rings

and

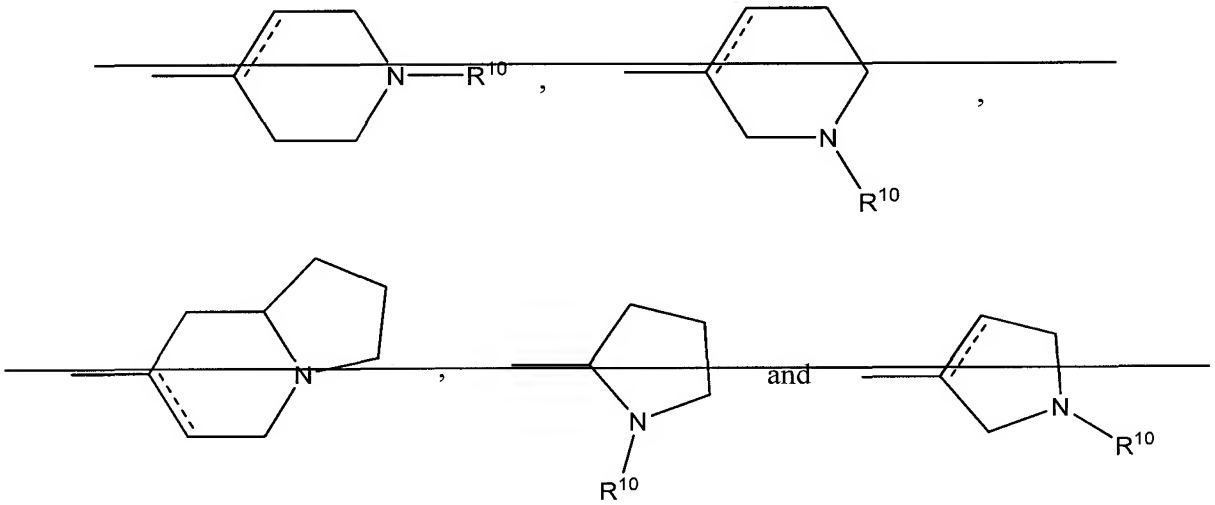
n is 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4;

optionally in form of one of its stereoisomers, ~~preferably enantiomers or diastereomers,~~ a racemate or in form of a mixture of at least two of its stereoisomers, ~~preferably enantiomers and/or diastereomers,~~ in any mixing ratio, or a salt thereof~~, preferably a corresponding, physiologically acceptable salt thereof~~.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): A compound according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein R^1 represents a $-NR^8R^9$ radical or a saturated or unsaturated, optionally at least mono-substituted, optionally at least heteroatom as a ring member containing 5- or 6-membered cycloaliphatic radical, which may be condensed with a saturated or unsaturated, optionally at least mono-substituted, optionally at least one heteroatom as a ring member

containing mono- or bicyclic cycloaliphatic ring system, whereby the rings of the ring system are 5- or 6-membered~~,~~

~~preferably R^1 represents an NR^8R^9 radical or a radical chosen from the group consisting of~~



~~wherein, if present, the dotted line represents an optional chemical bond, and R^{10} represents hydrogen, a linear or branched C_1-C_6 alkyl radical or a benzyl radical, preferably hydrogen or a C_1-C_2 alkyl radical~~.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): A compound according to claim 1~~, or 2, characterized in that~~ wherein R^2, R^3, R^4, R^5 and R^7, identical or different, each represent hydrogen, a linear or branched, optionally at least mono-substituted C_1-C_6 alkyl radical, a linear or branched, optionally at least mono-substituted C_2-C_6 alkenyl radical, or a linear or branched, optionally at least mono-substituted C_2-C_6 alkynyl radical~~,~~

~~preferably R^2, R^3, R^4, R^5 and R^7, identical or different, each represent hydrogen or a linear or branched, optionally at least mono-substituted C_1-C_6 alkyl radical,~~

~~more preferably R^2, R^3, R^4, R^5 and R^7 each represent hydrogen~~.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): A compound according to ~~one or more of claims 1 to 3, characterized in that~~ claim 1, wherein R^6 represents hydrogen, a linear or branched, optionally at least mono-substituted C_1-C_6 alkyl radical, a linear or branched, optionally at least mono-substituted C_2-C_6 alkenyl radical, a linear or branched, optionally at least mono-substituted C_2-C_6 alkynyl radical~~,~~

~~preferably R^6 represents hydrogen or a linear or branched, optionally at least mono-substituted C_1-C_6 alkyl radical,~~

~~more preferably R^6 represents hydrogen or a C_1-C_2 alkyl radical~~.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): A compound according to ~~one or more of claims 1 to 4, characterized in that~~ claim 1, wherein R^8 and R^9, identical or different, each represent hydrogen, a linear or branched, optionally at least mono-substituted C_1-C_{10} alkyl radical, a linear or branched, optionally at least mono-substituted C_2-C_{10} alkenyl radical, a linear or branched, optionally at least mono-substituted C_2-C_{10} alkynyl radical,

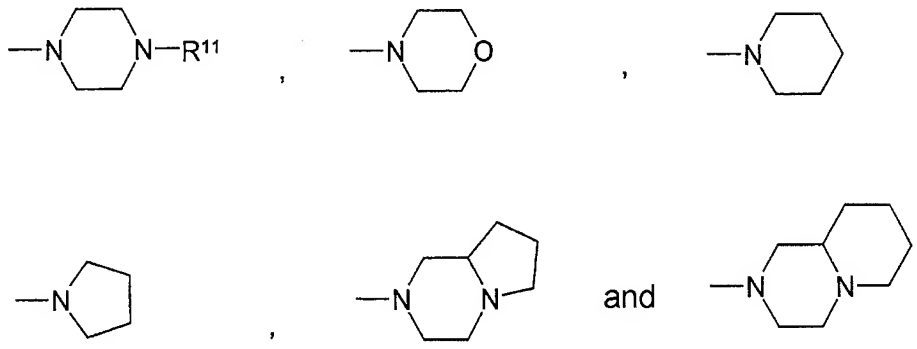
or

R^8 and R^9, together with the bridging nitrogen form a saturated or unsaturated, optionally at least mono-substituted, optionally at least one further heteroatom as a ring member containing 5- or 6-membered heterocyclic ring, which may be condensed with a saturated or unsaturated, optionally at least mono-substituted, optionally at least one heteroatom as a ring member containing mono- or bicyclic cycloaliphatic ring system, whereby the rings of the ring system are 5- 6- or 7-membered.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): A compound according to claim 5, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein R^8 and R^9, identical or different, each represent hydrogen or a linear or branched C_1-C_{10} alkyl radical,

or

R^8 and R^9, together with the bridging nitrogen form a radical chosen from the group consisting of

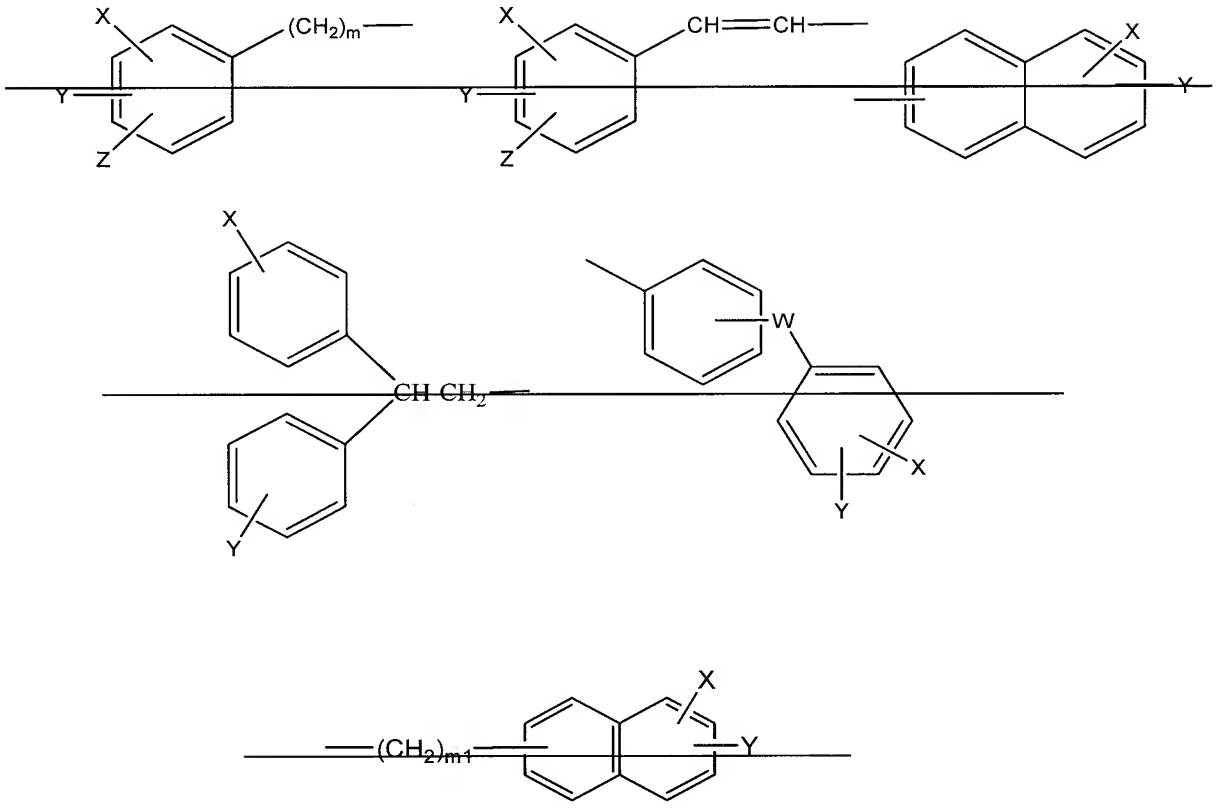


wherein R^{11} represents hydrogen, a linear or branched C_1-C_6 alkyl radical or a benzyl radical~~, preferably hydrogen or a C_1-C_2-alkyl radical~~.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): A compound according to ~~one or more of claims 1 to 6, characterized in that~~ claim 1, wherein A represents an optionally at least mono-substituted mono- or polycyclic aromatic ring system, wherein the ring(s) is/are 5- or 6-membered, which may be bonded via an optionally at least mono-substituted C_1-C_6 alkylene group, an optionally at least mono-substituted C_2-C_6 alkenylene group or an optionally at least mono-substituted C_2-C_6 alkynylene group and/or wherein the ring(s) may contain at least one heteroatom as a ring member~~,~~

~~preferably A represents an optionally at least mono-substituted mono- or polycyclic aromatic ring system, wherein the ring(s) is/are 5- or 6-membered and wherein one or more of the rings contain at least one heteroatom,~~

~~or a radical chosen from the group consisting of~~



~~wherein X, Y, Z, independently from one another, each represent a radical selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, fluorine, chlorine, bromine, linear or branched C_1-C_6 alkyl, linear or branched C_1-C_6 alkoxy, linear or branched C_1-C_6 alkylthio, a trifluoromethyl radical, a cyano radical and a $NR^{12}R^{13}$ radical,~~

~~wherein R^{12} and R^{13}, identical or different, each represent hydrogen or linear or branched C_1-C_6 alkyl,~~

~~W represents a single chemical bond between the two rings, a CH_2, O, S group or a NR^{14} radical,~~

~~wherein R^{14} is hydrogen or a linear or branched C_1-C_6 alkyl,~~

~~m is 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4 and~~

~~m1 is 1 or 2.~~

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): A compound according to ~~one or more of claims 1 to 7~~ claim 1, selected from the group consisting of

[9] 5-Chloro-3-methyl-N-[1-[2-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)ethyl-1H-indol-6-yl]-benzo[b]thiophene-2-sulfonamide,

[10] N-(1-[2-(Pyrrolidin-1-yl)ethyl]-1H-indol-6-yl]-napthalene-2-sulfonamide,

[11] N-[1-[2-Pyrrolidin-1-yl]ethyl]-1H-indol-6-yl]-naphthalene-1-sulfonamide,

[12] 6-Chloro-N-[1-[2-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)ethyl]-1H-indol-6-yl]-imidazo[2,1-b]thiazole-5-sulfonamide,

[13] 4-Phenyl-N-(1-(2-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)ethyl)-1H-indol-6-yl)-benzenesulfonamide

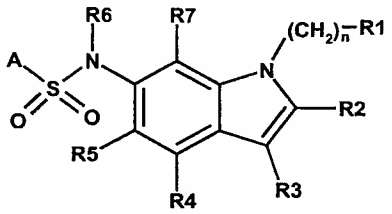
[14] 2-(Naphthyl-1-yl)-N-(1-(2-(pyrrolidin-1-yl) ethyl)-1H-indol-6-yl)-ethansulfonamide,

[15] 4-Phenoxy-N-(1-(2-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)ethyl)-1H-indol-6-yl)-benzenesulfonamide and

[16] 3,5-Dichloro-N-(1-(2-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)-1H-indol-6-yl)-benzenesulfonamide,

and their corresponding salts ~~and solvates~~.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): A sulfonamide compound of general formula (Ib)



(Ib)

wherein

R^1 is a $-NR^8R^9$ radical,

R^2, R^3, R^4, R^5 and R^7, identical or different, each represent hydrogen, halogen, nitro, alkoxy, cyano, a saturated or unsaturated, linear or branched, optionally at least mono-substituted aliphatic radical, or an optionally at least mono-substituted phenyl or optionally at least mono-substituted heteroaryl radical,

R^6 represents hydrogen or a saturated or unsaturated, linear or branched, optionally at least mono-substituted aliphatic radical,

R^8 and R^9, identical or different, each represent hydrogen or a saturated or unsaturated, linear or branched, optionally at least mono-substituted C_1-C_4 aliphatic radical,

A represents an optionally at least mono-substituted mono- or polycyclic aromatic ring system, which may be bonded via an optionally at least mono-substituted alkylene, alkenylene or alkynylene group and/or which may contain at least one heteroatom as a ring member in one or more of its rings and

n is 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4~~;~~

optionally in form of one of its stereoisomers~~, preferably enantiomers or diastereomers,~~ a racemate or in form of a mixture of at least two of its stereoisomers, ~~preferably enantiomers and/or diastereomers,~~ in any mixing ratio, or a salt thereof~~, preferably a corresponding, physiologically acceptable salt thereof~~.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): A compound according to claim 9, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein R^2, R^3, R^4, R^5 and R^7, identical or different, each represent hydrogen, a linear or branched, optionally at least mono-substituted C_1-C_6 alkyl radical, a linear or branched, optionally at least mono-substituted C_2-C_6 alkenyl radical, or a linear or branched, optionally at least mono-substituted C_2-C_6 alkynyl radical~~,~~

~~preferably R^2, R^3, R^4, R^5 and R^7, identical or different, each represent hydrogen or a linear or branched, optionally at least mono-substituted C_1-C_6 alkyl radical,~~

~~more preferably R^2, R^3, R^4, R^5 and R^7 each represent hydrogen~~.

Claim 11 (Currently Amended): A compound according to claim 9, wherein ~~or 10, characterized in that~~ R^6 represents hydrogen, a linear or branched, optionally at least mono-substituted C_1-C_6 alkyl radical, a linear or branched, optionally at least mono-substituted C_2-C_6 alkenyl radical, a linear or branched, optionally at least mono-substituted C_2-C_6 alkynyl radical~~,~~

~~preferably R^6 represents hydrogen or a linear or branched, optionally at least mono-substituted C_1-C_6 alkyl radical,~~

~~more preferably R^6 represents hydrogen or a C_1-C_2 alkyl radical~~.

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): A compound according to ~~one or more of claims 9 to 11, characterized in that~~ claim 9, wherein R^8 and R^9, identical or different, each represent hydrogen or a linear or branched, optionally at least mono-substituted C_1-C_4 alkyl radical~~,~~

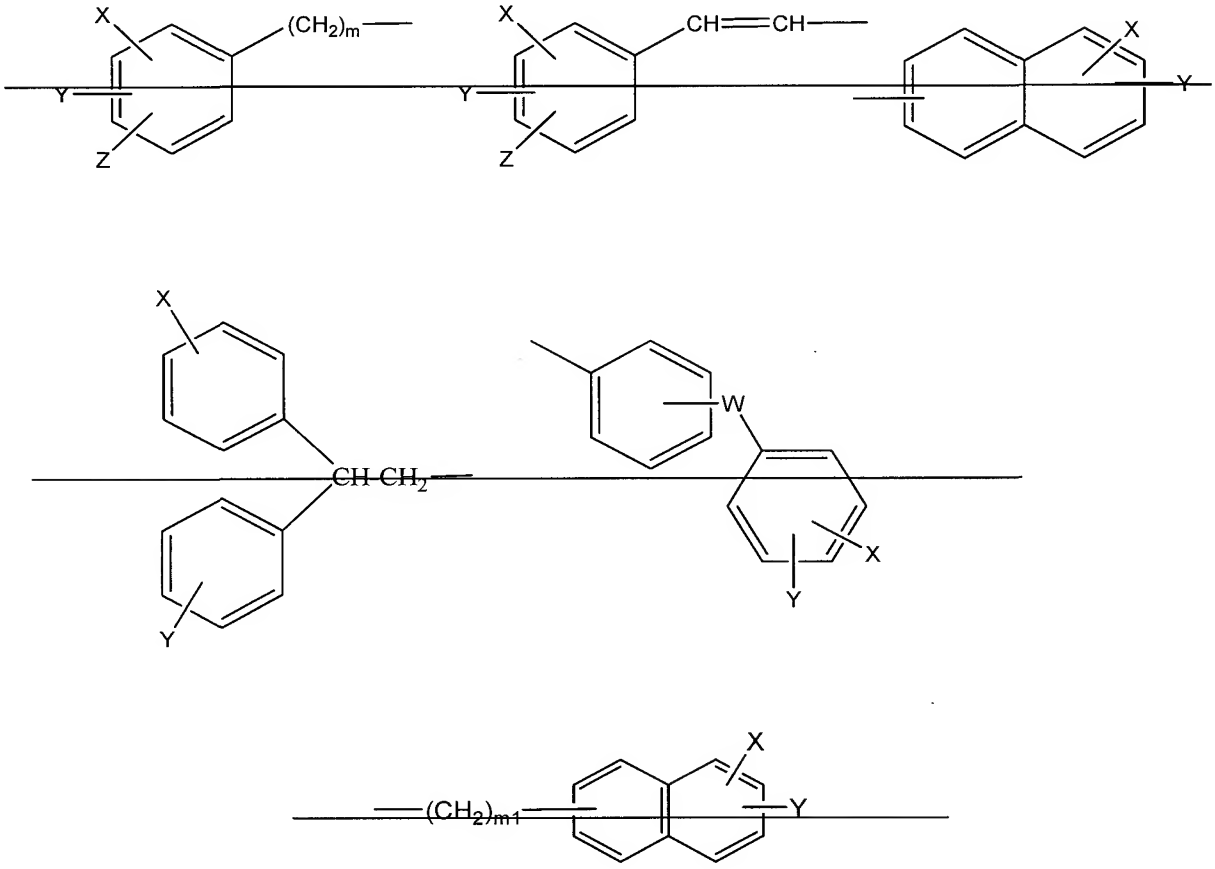
~~preferably R^8 and R^9, identical or different, each represent hydrogen or a C_1-C_2 alkyl radical~~,

with the proviso that R^8 and R^9 are not hydrogen at the same time.

Claim 13 (Currently Amended): A compound according to ~~one or more of claims 9 to 12, characterized in that~~ claim 9, wherein A represents an optionally at least mono-substituted mono- or polycyclic aromatic ring system, wherein the ring(s) is/are 5- or 6-membered, which may be bonded via an optionally at least mono-substituted C_1-C_6 alkylene group, an optionally at least mono-substituted C_2-C_6 alkenylene group or an optionally at least mono-substituted C_2-C_6 alkynylene group and/or wherein the ring(s) may contain at least one heteroatom as a ring member~~,~~

~~preferably A represents an optionally at least mono-substituted mono- or polycyclic aromatic ring system, wherein the ring(s) is/are 5- or 6-membered and wherein one or more of the rings contain at least one heteroatom,~~

~~or a radical chosen from the group consisting of~~



~~wherein X, Y, Z, independently from one another, each represent a radical selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, fluorine, chlorine, bromine, linear or branched C_1-C_6 alkyl, linear or branched C_1-C_6-alkoxy, linear or branched C_1-C_6-alkylthio, a trifluoromethyl radical, a cyano radical and a $-NR^{12}R^{13}$ radical,~~

~~wherein R^{12} and R^{13}, identical or different, each represent hydrogen or linear or branched C_1-C_6-alkyl,~~

~~W represents a single chemical bond between the two rings, a CH_2, O, S group or a NR^{14} radical,~~

~~wherein R^{14} is hydrogen or a linear or branched C_1-C_6 alkyl,~~

~~m is 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4 and~~

~~m1 is 1 or 2~~.

Claim 14 (Currently Amended): A compound according to ~~one or more of claims 9 to 13~~ claim 9, selected from the group consisting of

[1] N-[1-(2-Dimethylaminoethyl)-1H-indol-6-yl]-5-chloro-3-methylbenzo[b]thiophene-2-sulfonamide,

[2] N-[1-(2-Dimethylaminoethyl)-1H-indol-6-yl]-naphthalene-2-sulfonamide,

[3] N-[1-(2-Dimethylaminoethyl)-1H-indol-6-yl]-naphthalene-1-sulfonamide,

[4] N-[1-(2-Dimethylaminoethyl)-1H-indol-6-yl]-6-chloroimidazo[2,1-b]thiazole-5-sulfonamide,

[5] N-[1-(2-Dimethylaminoethyl)-1H-indol-6-yl]-4-phenylbenzenesulfonamide,

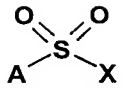
[6] N-[1-(2-Dimethylaminoethyl)-1H-indol-6-yl]-2-(naphthalene-1-yl)-ethanesulfonamide,

[7] N-[1-(2-Dimethylaminoethyl)-1H-indol-6-yl]-4-phenoxybenzenesulfonamide,

[8] N-[1-(2-Dimethylaminoethyl)-1H-indol-6-yl]-3.5-dichlorobenzenesulfonamide,

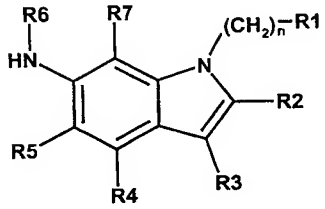
and their corresponding salts ~~and solvates~~.

Claim 15 (Currently Amended): A process for obtaining a sulfonamide derivative of general formula (Ia) ~~and/or (Ib)~~, according to ~~one or more of claims 1 to 14, characterized in that~~ claim 1, wherein at least one compound of general formula (II), or one of its suitably protected derivatives,



(II)

wherein ~~A has the meaning according to one or more of claims 1 to 14 and~~ X is an acceptable leaving group~~, preferably an halogen atom, more preferably chlorine~~; is reacted with at least one 6-aminoindole of general formula (III), or one of its suitably protected derivatives;



(III)

~~wherein R^1 to R^7 and n have the meaning according to one or more of claims 1 to 14~~ to yield the corresponding sulfonamide and optionally, from the latter, the protective groups can be removed if necessary.

Claim 16 (Currently Amended): A process for obtaining a sulfonamide derivative of general formula (Ia) ~~and/or (Ib)~~, according to ~~one or more of claims 1 to 14~~ claim 1, wherein ~~R^1 to R^5, R^7, n and A have the meaning according to one or more of claims 1 to 14, and~~ R^6 is C_1-C_6 alkyl, ~~characterized in that~~ comprising reacting at least one compound of general formula (Ia) ~~and/or at least one compound of general formula (Ib),~~ wherein ~~R^1 to R^5, R^7, n and A have the meaning according to one or more of claims 1 to 14, and~~ R^6 is an hydrogen atom, ~~is reacted~~ with an alkyl halogenide or dialkyl sulfate.

Claim 17 (Currently Amended): A process for preparing a salt ~~the salts, preferably the physiologically acceptable salts of the compounds~~ of general formula (Ia) ~~and/or (Ib)~~, according to ~~one or more of claims 1 to 14, characterized in that~~ claim 1, wherein at least one compound of the general formula (Ia) ~~and/or at least one compound of the general formula (Ib)~~ is reacted with a mineral acid or an organic acid in a suitable solvent.

Claim 18 (Currently Amended): A ~~medicament~~ pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of at least one compound according to ~~one or more of claims 1 to 8~~ claim 1 and optionally one or more pharmacologically acceptable excipients.

Claim 19 (Canceled).

Claim 20 (Currently Amended): A method for 5-HT_6 receptor regulation comprising administering to a subject in need thereof an effective amount ~~The use~~ of at least one compound as defined in claim 1 ~~according to one or more of claims 1 to 8 for the manufacture of a medicament for 5-HT_6 receptor regulation~~.

Claim 21 (Currently Amended): A method for the treatment and/or prophylaxis of a disorder or disease related to food intake and/or the regulation of appetite comprising administering to a subject in need thereof an effective amount ~~The use~~ of at least one compound as defined in claim 1 ~~one or more of claims 1 to 8 for the manufacture of a medicament for the prophylaxis and/or treatment of a disorder or disease related to food intake~~.

Claim 22 (Canceled).

Claim 23 (Currently Amended): A method according to claim 21 wherein the disorder or disease is chosen from the maintenance, increase or reduction of body weight, bulimia, anorexia, cachexia and/or type II diabetes (non-insulin-dependent diabetes mellitus) ~~The use of at least one compound according to one or more of claims 1 to 8 for the manufacture of a medicament for the maintenance, increase or reduction of body weight~~.

Claim 24 (Currently Amended): A method according to claim 21 wherein the disorder or disease is obesity ~~The use of at least one compound according to one or more of claims 1 to 8 for the manufacture of a medicament for the prophylaxis and/or treatment of obesity~~.

Claims 25-28 (Canceled).

Claim 29 (Currently Amended): A method for the treatment and/or prophylaxis of gastrointestinal tract disorders comprising administering to a subject in need thereof an effective amount ~~The use~~ of at least one compound as defined in claim 1 ~~according to one or more of claims 1 to 8 for the manufacture of a medicament for the prophylaxis and/or treatment of gastrointestinal tract disorders~~.

Claim 30 (Currently Amended): A method according to claim 29 wherein the disorder is irritable bowel syndrome ~~The use of at least one compound according to one or more of claims 1 to 8 for the manufacture of a medicament for the prophylaxis and/or treatment of irritable bowel syndrome~~.

Claim 31 (Currently Amended): A method according to claim 43 wherein the disorder is chosen from anxiety, depression, bipolar disorders, cognitive memory disorders and/or senile dementia processes ~~The use of at least one compound according to one or more of claims 1 to 8 for the manufacture of a medicament for the prophylaxis and/or treatment of anxiety~~.

Claims 32-35 (Canceled).

Claim 36 (Currently Amended): A method according to claim 103 wherein the disorder is chosen from Alzheimer's Disease, Parkinson's Disease, dementias in which a cognitive deficit predominates, Huntington's Disease, multiple sclerosis, schizophrenia, psychosis and/or infantile hyperkinesia (ADHD, attention deficit / hyperactivity disorder) ~~The use of at least one compound according to one or more of claims 1 to 8 for the manufacture of a medicament for the prophylaxis and/or treatment of Alzheimer's Disease~~.

Claims 37-42 (Canceled).

Claim 43 (Currently Amended): A method for the treatment and/or prophylaxis of disorders of the central nervous system comprising administering to a subject in need thereof an effective amount ~~The use~~ of at least one compound as defined in claim 1 ~~according to one or more of claims 1 to 8 for the manufacture of a medicament for the prophylaxis and/or treatment of disorders of the central nervous system~~.

Claim 44 (Canceled).

Claim 45 (Currently Amended): A method for cognitive enhancement comprising administering to a subject in need thereof an effective amount ~~The use~~ of at least one compound as defined in claim 1 ~~according to one or more of claims 1 to 8 for the manufacture of a medicament for cognitive enhancement~~.

Claim 46 (Currently Amended): A ~~medicament~~ pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of at least one compound according to claim 9 ~~one or more of claims 9 to 14~~ and optionally one or more pharmacologically acceptable excipients.

Claim 47 (Canceled).

Claim 48 (Currently Amended): A method for 5-HT_6 receptor regulation comprising administering to a subject in need thereof an effective amount ~~The use~~ of at least one compound as defined in claim 9 ~~according to one or more of claims 9 to 14 for the manufacture of a medicament for 5-HT_6 receptor regulation~~.

Claim 49 (Currently Amended): A method for the treatment and/or prophylaxis of a disorder or disease related to food intake and/or the regulation of appetite comprising administering to a subject in need thereof an effective amount ~~The use~~ of at least one compound as defined in claim 9 ~~according to one or more of claims 9 to 14 for the manufacture of a medicament for the prophylaxis and/or treatment of a disorder or disease related to food intake~~.

Claim 50 (Canceled).

Claim 51 (Currently Amended): A method according to claim 49 wherein the disorder or disease is chosen from the maintenance, increase or reduction of body weight, bulimia, anorexia, cachexia and/or type II diabetes (non-insulin-dependent diabetes mellitus) ~~The use of at least one compound according to one or more of claims 9 to 14 for the manufacture of a medicament for the maintenance, increase or reduction of body weight~~.

Claim 52 (Currently Amended): A method for the treatment and/or prophylaxis of obesity comprising administering to a subject in need thereof an effective amount ~~The use~~ of at least one compound as defined in claim 9 ~~according to one or more of claims 9 to 14 for the manufacture of a medicament for the prophylaxis and/or treatment of obesity~~.

Claims 53-56 (Canceled).

Claim 57 (Currently Amended): A method for the treatment and/or prophylaxis of gastrointestinal tract disorders comprising administering to a subject in need thereof an effective amount ~~The use~~ of at least one compound as defined in claim 9 ~~according to one or more of claims 9 to 14 for the manufacture of a medicament for the manufacture of a medicament for the prophylaxis and/or treatment of gastrointestinal tract disorders~~.

Claim 58 (Currently Amended): A method according to claim 57 for the treatment and/or prophylaxis of irritable bowel syndrome ~~The use of at least one compound according to one or more of claims 9 to 14 for the manufacture of a medicament for the prophylaxis and/or treatment of irritable bowel syndrome~~.

Claim 59 (Currently Amended): A method according to claim 71 for the treatment and/or prophylaxis of anxiety, depression, bipolar disorders, cognitive memory disorders and/or senile dementia processes ~~The use of at least one compound according to one or more of claims 9 to 14 for the manufacture of a medicament for the prophylaxis and/or treatment of anxiety~~.

Claims 60-63 (Canceled).

Claim 64 (Currently Amended): A method according to claim 104 wherein the disorder is chosen from Alzheimer's Disease, Parkinson's Disease, dementias in which a cognitive deficit predominates, Huntington's Disease, multiple sclerosis, schizophrenia, psychosis and/or infantile hyperkinesia (ADHD, attention deficit / hyperactivity disorder) ~~The use of at least one compound according to one or more of claims 9 to 14 for the manufacture of a medicament for the prophylaxis and/or treatment of Alzheimer's Disease~~.

Claims 65-70 (Canceled).

Claim 71 (Currently Amended): A method for the treatment and/or prophylaxis of disorders of the central nervous system comprising administering to a subject in need thereof an effective amount ~~The use~~ of at least one compound as defined in claim 9 ~~according to one or more of claims 9 to 14 for the manufacture of a medicament for the prophylaxis and/or treatment of disorders of the central nervous system~~.

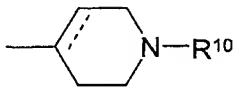
Claim 72 (Canceled).

Claim 73 (Currently Amended): A method for cognitive enhancement comprising administering to a subject in need thereof an effective amount ~~The use~~ of at least one compound as defined in claim 9 ~~according to one or more of claims 9 to 14 for the manufacture of a medicament for cognitive enhancement~~.

Claim 74 (New): A compound according to claim 1, wherein the compound is in the form of a physiologically acceptable salt thereof.

Claim 75 (New): A compound according to claim 1, wherein the compound is in the form of its enantiomers or diastereomers, or in the form of a mixture of at least two of its enantiomers and/or diastereomers.

Claim 76 (New): A compound according to claim 2, wherein R^1 represents an -NR^8R^9 radical or a radical selected from the group consisting of



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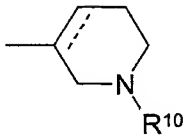

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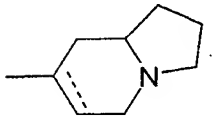

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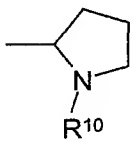
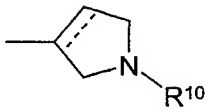


and


wherein, if present, the dotted line represents an optional chemical bond, and R^{10} represents hydrogen, a linear or branched C_1-C_6 alkyl radical or a benzyl radical.

Claim 77 (New): A compound according to claim 76, wherein the radical contains R^{10}, which is hydrogen or a C_1-C_2 alkyl radical.

Claim 78 (New): A compound according to claim 3, wherein R^2, R^3, R^4, R^5 and R^7, identical or different, each represent hydrogen or a linear or branched, optionally at least mono-substituted C_1-C_6 alkyl radical.

Claim 79 (New): A compound according to claim 78, wherein R^2, R^3, R^4, R^5 and R^7 each represent hydrogen.

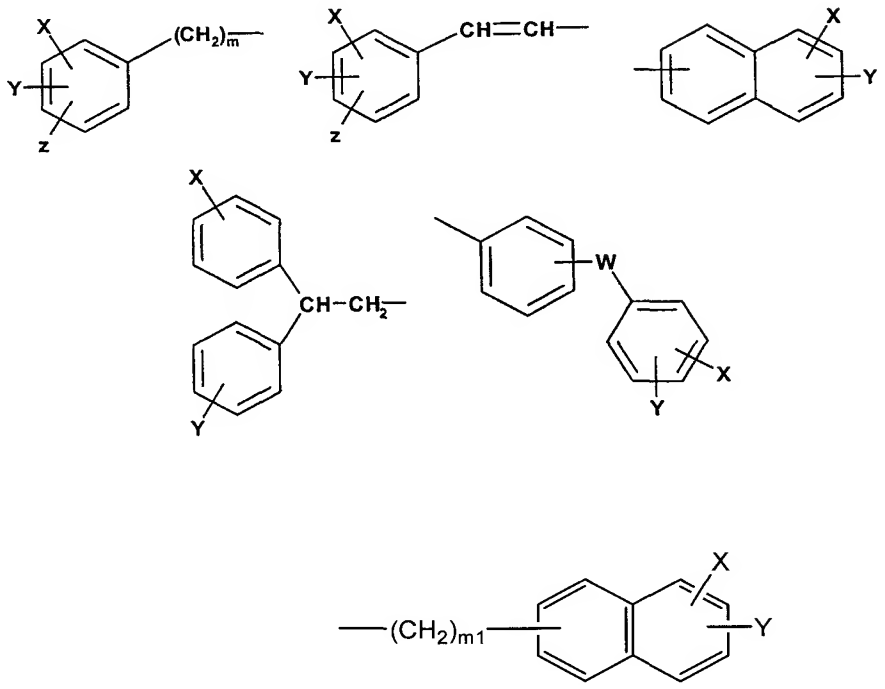
Claim 80 (New): A compound according to claim 4, wherein R^6 represents hydrogen or a linear or branched, optionally at least mono-substituted C_1-C_6 alkyl radical.

Claim 81 (New): A compound according to claim 80, wherein R^6 represents hydrogen or a C_1-C_2 alkyl radical.

Claim 82 (New): A compound according to claim 6, wherein R^{11} represents hydrogen or a C_1-C_2 alkyl radical.

Claim 83 (New): A compound according to claim 7, wherein A represents an optionally at least mono-substituted mono- or polycyclic aromatic ring system, wherein the ring(s) is/are 5- or 6-membered and wherein one or more of the rings contain at least one heteroatom.

Claim 84 (New): A compound according to claim 7, wherein A is a radical selected from the group consisting of



wherein X, Y, Z, independently from one another, each represent a radical selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, fluorine, chlorine, bromine, linear or branched C_1-C_6 alkyl, linear or branched C_1-C_6 alkoxy, linear or branched C_1-C_6 alkylthio, a trifluoromethyl radical, a cyano radical and a -$NR^{12}R^{13}$ radical,

wherein R^{12} and R^{13}, identical or different, each represent hydrogen or linear or branched C_1-C_6 alkyl,

W represents a single chemical bond between the two rings, a CH_2, O, S group or a NR^{14} radical,

wherein R^{14} is hydrogen or a linear or branched C_1-C_6 alkyl,

m is 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4 and

m1 is 1 or 2.

Claim 85 (New): A compound according to claim 9, wherein the compound is in the form of a physiologically acceptable salt thereof.

Claim 86 (New): A compound according to claim 9, wherein the compound is in the form of its enantiomers or diastereomers, or in the form of a mixture of at least two of its enantiomers and/or diastereomers.

Claim 87 (New): A compound according to claim 10, wherein R^2, R^3, R^4, R^5 and R^7, identical or different, each represent hydrogen or a linear or branched, optionally at least mono-substituted C_1-C_6 alkyl radical.

Claim 88 (New): A compound according to claim 87, wherein R^2, R^3, R^4, R^5 and R^7 each represent hydrogen.

Claim 89 (New): A compound according to claim 11, wherein R^6 represents hydrogen or a linear or branched, optionally at least mono-substituted C_1-C_6 alkyl radical.

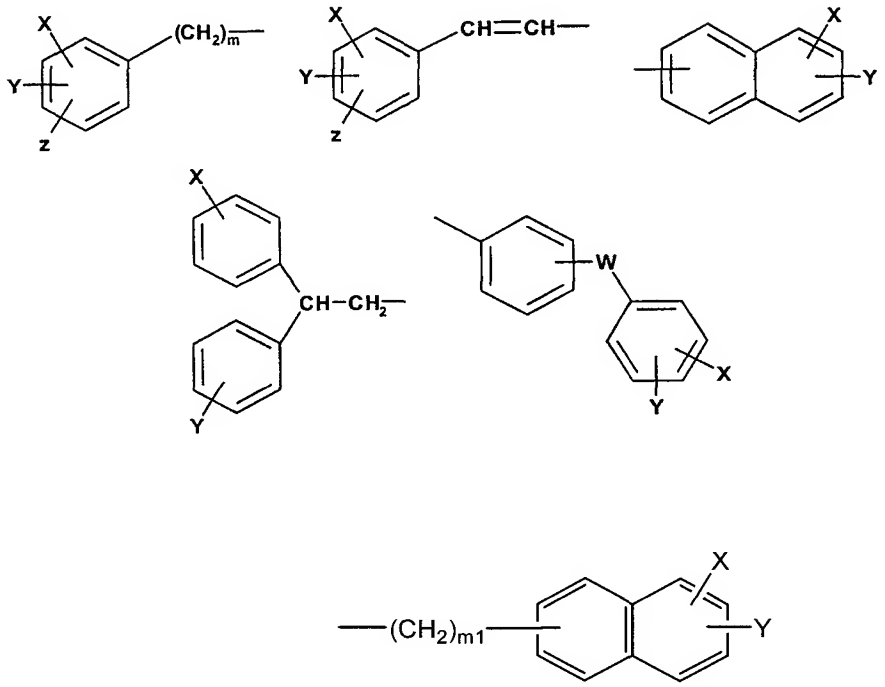
Claim 90 (New): A compound according to claim 89, wherein R^6 represents hydrogen or a C_1-C_2 alkyl radical.

Claim 91 (New): A compound according to claim 12, wherein R^8 and R^9, identical or different, each represent hydrogen or a C_1-C_2 alkyl radical.

Claim 92 (New): A compound according to claim 13, wherein A represents an optionally at least mono-substituted mono- or polycyclic aromatic ring system, wherein the

ring(s) is/are 5- or 6-membered and wherein one or more of the rings contain at least one heteroatom.

Claim 93 (New): A compound according to claim 13, wherein A is a radical selected from the group consisting of



wherein X, Y, Z, independently from one another, each represent a radical selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, fluorine, chlorine, bromine, linear or branched C_1-C_6 alkyl, linear or branched C_1-C_6 alkoxy, linear or branched C_1-C_6 alkylthio, a trifluoromethyl radical, a cyano radical and a $-NR^{12}R^{13}$ radical,

wherein R^{12} and R^{13}, identical or different, each represent hydrogen or linear or branched C_1-C_6 alkyl,

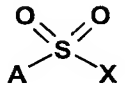
W represents a single chemical bond between the two rings, a CH_2, O, S group or a NR^{14} radical,

wherein R^{14} is hydrogen or a linear or branched C_1-C_6 alkyl,

m is 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4 and

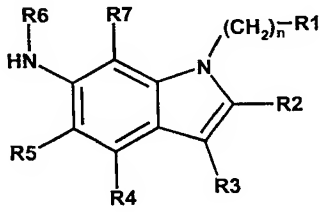
m1 is 1 or 2.

Claim 94 (New): A process for obtaining a sulfonamide derivative of general formula (Ib) according to claim 9, wherein at least one compound of general formula (II), or one of its suitably protected derivatives,



(II)

wherein X is an acceptable leaving group is reacted with at least one 6-aminoindole of general formula (III), or one of its suitably protected derivatives;



(III)

to yield the corresponding sulfonamide and optionally, from the latter, the protective groups can be removed if necessary.

Claim 95 (New): A process for obtaining a sulfonamide derivative of general formula (Ib) according to claim 9, wherein R^6 is C_1-C_6 alkyl, comprising reacting at least one compound of general formula (Ib) wherein R^6 is an hydrogen atom, with an alkyl halogenide or dialkyl sulfate.

Claim 96 (New): A process for preparing a salt of general formula (Ib) according to claim 9, wherein at least one compound of the general formula (Ib) is reacted with a mineral acid or an organic acid in a suitable solvent.

Claim 97 (New): A process according to claim 15, wherein X is an halogen atom.

Claim 98 (New): A process according to claim 15, wherein X is chlorine.

Claim 99 (New): A process according to claim 94, wherein X is an halogen atom.

Claim 100 (New): A process according to claim 94, wherein X is chlorine.

Claim 101 (New): A method according to claim 28, wherein the type II diabetes is caused by obesity.

Claim 102 (New): A method according to claim 56, wherein the type II diabetes is caused by obesity.

Claim 103 (New): A method for the treatment and/or prophylaxis of neurodegenerative disorders comprising administering to a subject in need thereof an effective amount of at least one compound as defined in claim 1.

Claim 104 (New): A method for the treatment and/or prophylaxis of neurodegenerative disorders comprising administering to a subject in need thereof an effective amount of at least one compound as defined in claim 9.